

# **Next Town Assembly**

**Village of Arden  
Monday, June 23, 1997  
7:30 p.m.  
Arden Gild Hall**

## **AGENDA**

- Trustees Report:  
Result of election of new trustee
- Assessors Report
- Auditing Report
- Committee budget projections
- Motion from Playground Committee  
on removal of flagpole on Sherwood  
Green
- Standing committee reports

**All are welcome.**

**Please note: Those attending town meeting  
are eligible to vote after six consecutive  
months as an Arden resident prior  
to the meeting and are 18 years old or older.**

**March 24, 1997 Town Assembly for the Village of Arden  
Gild Hall • Arden, Delaware**

**Present:**

Jan Westerhouse	Ruth Panella	Beverly A. Barnett
Rae F. Gerstine	Bill Press	Linda Eaton
Thomas Colgan	Ken Lipstein	Rachel Grier
Elizabeth Varley	Tom Wheeler	Lynne Svenning
Hugh Roberts	Leon Tanzer	Irene O'Connor
Marjorie Roberts	Gail Rinehart	Mike Curtis
Mamie Woolery	Frank Akutowitz	Cecilia Vore
Larry Walker	Peter Renzetti	Eliot Levin
Sandra Hurlong	Bunni Hurlong	Bob Wynn
Walter Border	Lisa Hurlong	Steven Harcourt
James W. Scott	Virginia Mann	Tegan Harcourt (NV)
Edmund Hurlong	Sally Hamburger	Brooke Boyard
Lou Bean	Aaron Hamburger	Drumlin Brooke (NV)
Maryellen Jobson	Tim Colgan	Naomi Clark
Ruth Bean	Jean K. Brachman	Dane Miller
Dee Steele	Bernie Brachman	Mark Taylor
Alton Dahl	Sharon Kleban	Sadie Somerville
James Schwaber	Betty O'Regan	Judy Butler
Jannie Stearns	Lynda A. Kolski	Lew Aumack
Mary Brent Whipple	Rodney W. Jester	Phil Lavelle (NV)
Steven Threefoot	Marijke Wiegman	Gene Shaw
Elaine Schmerling	John Reilly	Denis O'Regan
Marianne Cinaglia	Edward Rohrbach	Connee Wright McKinney

1. **Assembly Chairperson:** Bill Press, Town Assembly Chairperson, established that there was a quorum and called the meeting to order. The chairperson mentioned that Channel 12 was filming a part of this town meeting for a program on the Village to be aired Labor Day weekend.
2. **Agenda Clarification:** Tim Colgan read a resolution to the Brandywine School District that he encouraged the Town Assembly to support. The Proposition read as follows:

**RESOLUTION**

To: Joseph P. DeJohn, Superintendent Brandywine School District  
Members of the Brandywine School Board:  
Ralph G. Ackerman, President, Enid Rapkin, Vice-president  
Robert Blew, Paul Hart, G. Lawrence Pelkey, Jr., G. Harold Thompson,  
Raymond E. Tomasetti, Jr.,  
Wayne Smith, Delaware House of Representatives,  
Myrna Bair, Delaware State Senate

From: Town Assembly, Village of Arden, Arden, Delaware

The Town Assembly is the governing body for the village. It has been brought to our attention that changes to the student feeder patterns are being considered by the Brandywine School District. Some of these plans would require children living on one side of Harvey Road going to one set of schools, and the other side of the road attending another set of schools. This action would split the three Ardens in half and is unacceptable to this body.

Our villages take pride in the interaction we encourage among our residents. We are an active community with many events and programs designed to create a bond between all our citizens, including our school-aged children. A plan that would divide the villages would be disruptive to our ongoing desire to unite the social fabric of the villages.

Therefore, this town assembly resolves that the three Ardens remain together in one feeder pattern if changes are made to existing school assignments.

Motion to support the resolution was made and seconded. Vote was in favor.

A check from DeIDOT for \$4500 for a Harvey Road Traffic Calming landscape design that will be commissioned by the Community Planning Committee was presented to the Village of Arden.

**Guest:** Phil Lavelle, a representative from County Councilman Robert Weiner's office, was in attendance. He said that he would be available to address any concerns of the Village after the meeting.

Leon Tanzer asked interested residents to sign a petition for Campaign Finance Reform.

**3. Communications:** None.

**4. Approval of March Town Minutes:** Vote was in favor to approve.

**5. Update on Administration Assistant/Treasurer Committee Review:** Judy Butler reported on the recommendations of the committee and made a motion to revise the duties of Town Treasurer. The proposal and motion that was seconded read as follows:

Proposal to Define the Temporary Duties of the office of the Treasurer of the Village of Arden

It is proposed that the newly-elected Treasurer of the Village of Arden for the fiscal year 1997- 1998 assume the following temporary charge and responsibilities:

1. Be responsible for the oversight of the financial affairs of the Village of Arden.
2. Be an ex-officio member of the Advisory, Audit and Budget Committees.
3. Chair a committee to study how the financial relationships of the Village and the Trustees may be better defined. The Treasurer will be responsible for selecting at least 3 Arden residents to serve on this ad hoc committee.
4. Report and recommend to the Advisory Committee and the Town Assembly by January, 1998, any financial activities and policies that should be improved, combined, developed or eliminated.

There will be no salary attached to the office.

**An amendment (in brackets) to the motion was proposed:** There will be no salary attached to the office [until approved by the Town Assembly].

A vote on the motion with the amendment was taken and approved.

A motion was made "to authorize that \$2000 be directed from the General Fund to compensate the Administrative Assistant for additional duties as Trustees Administrative Assistant." Discussion on the motion followed and the motion was amended as follows:

**Motion:** The Town Assembly authorizes the Trustees to direct a sum of money from the General Fund equivalent to the 1997-1998 appropriation for the Town Treasurer position to their Administrative Assistant to compensate her for the work she will be doing for the town.

Motion as amended was approved.

**5. Election of Town Committees and Officers:** Bill Press asked the nominees in attendance to stand. Ballots were distributed and collected.



**6. Trustees Report:** Gail Rinehart updated us on the continuing improvement in the health of Trustee Shaul Gladstone.

1) The financial balances as of February 28, 1997 that are attached to this report are as follows:

Balance in Bank: .....	\$ 39,371.66
Investments: .....	105,000.00
TOTAL .....	\$ 144,371.66

Note that the miscellaneous expense listed under the Trustee Administrative section is well-above the amount originally projected. Some of this is a usual occurrence because not all town committees have individual line item budgets, necessitating that those costs be documented in this category. However, much of the additional cost is related to the impact of our current transition in personnel. I would caution you that this trend will continue into the '97-'98 fiscal year for the same reasons. Expenses should revert to the normal pattern for the '98-'99 fiscal year.

2) The Land Rents due for the '97-'98 fiscal year have been coming in nicely and were well ahead of the deadline of March 25, which for those who may need a tiny reminder is tomorrow.

3) The salary amounts for the '97-'98 fiscal year will remain constant but will be distributed in a manner different from those shown on previous reports, again due to the change in personnel. As of tomorrow the Trustee Secretary position will be dissolved. Let me take this moment to thank Kate Bartolo for the work and attention she has brought to this position over the recent years. In June, the transition will be completed, with the funds going to one employee.

4) The Trustees have a phone. The number is 475-7980. There also is an answering machine which will direct a caller to additional numbers he/she can use in case of an emergency. The reality is that all of the world has been very spoiled by having access to Rae at all hours of the day and night. In essence, the office has been open 24 hours per day for over 30 years. This is changing. Access and service can be maintained with a more reasonable arrangement for the personnel involved. We now have our own mailbox, clearly marked, located at the front door of our new office space, 2002 Orleans Rd. - the Varley - Walker residence. Please feel free to leave paperwork in the box. Initially specific office hours are on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons after 3:30, and at times individually arranged with Elizabeth. No doubt this will mean adjustments in our "way of life" on the part of all of us, but let's see if this works.

5) Reference is made to the Town party held on Sunday March 9. We had a good time and many people who do not normally attend social functions joined us. Much gratitude needs to be extended to those who worked in various roles to make this so successful. Thank you! We look forward to the next one.

6) The Buckingham Green situation remains slow moving, with no real progress to present.

7) We encourage the current chairpersons of the various committees, even if you are vacating that position, to submit all vouchers related to the weekly and monthly accounts for the new fiscal year as soon as possible so we can continue to pay on them without interruption. Receipts submitted for past bills will, necessarily, come out of the new budgets.

8) The trustees have been meeting at Shaul's quite regularly in an attempt to develop a nomination for a new Trustee. Twelve names were presented to us and we made the appropriate contacts to generate a final pool of candidates. Job descriptions were disseminated and interviews were conducted. This part of our transition has been a most

## Trustees' Report continued

enjoyable process, and it is with great pleasure that Shaul, Marianne, and I present to you for consideration the nomination of Aaron Hamburger. A letter specifically delineating Aaron's strengths will accompany the referendum ballot, and a letter asking the Registration Committee to put the referendum process in action for the election of a new Trustee is attached to this report. For the almost 30 years that Aaron and his family have been residents of Arden, Aaron has maintained a strong interest and involvement in the affairs of our Village, and demonstrated repeatedly a working understanding of the Deed of Trust. He has participated on a variety of Village committees, often in the role of chairperson. He has had a long-term connection with ACRA, and has been the President of the Arden Club for a number of years. Aaron also has pursued several activities out in the wider community. We are confident that Aaron would bring some real strengths to the activities of the Trustees, and we ask for your support of this nomination.

Respectfully submitted Gail Rinehart, Trustee

Report approved.

## Receipts

VILLAGE OF ARDEN  
RECEIPTS & BANK BALANCES - 3/25/96 TO 2/28/97  
PRESENTED TO TOWN MEETING ON 3/24/97

BALANCE IN BANK MARCH 25, 96 \$207,658.73

## RECEIPTS:

GRANTS 5,100.00  
INTEREST & DIVIDENDS 12,413.64

LAND RENT:

FISCAL YEARS, PAST 762.25

FISCAL YEARS, PRESENT 110,634.33

FISCAL YEARS, FUTURE 19,812.24

LATE PAYMENT INTEREST —

MEADOW LANE RENT 262.12

MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS 2,648.00

MISCELLANEOUS 3,258.50

RIGHTS OF WAY —

CABLE TV 1,230.28

ROADS 2,779.62

SUBTOTAL 158,900.98

INVESTMENTS, REDEEMED +275,000.00

INVESTMENTS, NEW -290,000.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS 143,900.98

RECEIPTS & STARTING BANK BALANCE 351,559.71

EXPENDITURES AGAINST BUDGET -312,188.05

BALANCE IN BANK AS OF 2/28/97 39,371.66

## INVESTMENT POSITION:

ARDEN BUILDING & LOAN 15,000.00

BANK INSTRUMENTS 90,000.00

OTHER —

TOTAL \$105,000.00

SIGNED: TRUSTEE Gail Rinehart; ADMIN. ASS'T. Rae G. Gerold

## Expenditures

VILLAGE OF ARDEN  
EXPENDITURES AGAINST BUDGET - 3/25/96 TO 2/28/97  
PRESENTED TO TOWN MEETING ON 3/24/97

BUDGET ITEM	BUDGETED AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES F.Y TO DATE	EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT
<b>COMMITTEES:</b>			
ARCHIVES	\$ 3,280	\$ 3,045.55	\$ 350.00
BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER	2,125	1,051.52	48.73
<b>CIVIC:</b>			
COMMONS & FORESTS	13,000	13,648.13(a)	13.56
GRANTS	6,000	6,000.00	0.00
ROADS	14,000	9,345.63	4,679.31
SPECIAL CLEAN-UP	2,000	1,627.16	0.00
TRASH COLLECTION	32,000	28,967.66	5,307.74
COMMUNITY PLANNING	200	0.00	0.00
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE	700	652.50	0.00
PLAYGROUND	1,300	1,304.83	303.45
REGISTRATION	3,000	2,397.79	693.69
<b>SAFETY:</b>			
GENERAL	900	331.48	137.80
TOWN WATCH COORDINATOR	2,172	1,991.00	362.00
TRAFFIC LIGHT	600	0.00	0.00
WELCOME HITHER	250	0.00	0.00
<b>SALARIES</b>			
ASSEMBLY SECRETARY	4,548	4,169.00	758.00
ASSEMBLY TREASURER	1,896	1,738.00	316.00
<b>OTHER LINE ITEMS:</b>			
CONTINGENCIES	2,000	0.00	0.00
<b>DONATION:</b>			
ACRA	700	700.00	0.00
ARDEN LIBRARY	400	400.00	0.00
ARDEN PAGE	450	450.00	0.00
FIRE COMPANIES	850	850.00	0.00
GILD HALL RENTAL	650	650.00	0.00
<b>TAXES:</b>			
NEW CASTLE COUNTY PROP.	54,300	52,261.76	0.00
SCHOOL	148,500	144,935.66	0.00
TELEPHONE	360	175.40	30.92
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE:</b>			
AUDITING	3,000	2,900.00	0.00
INSURANCE	6,300	4,609.00	0.00
LEGAL	1,000	11,500.00(b)	0.00
OFFICE RENT	2,196	2,013.00	366.00
MISCELLANEOUS	1,500	4,428.06	1,358.01(c)
PAYROLL TAXES	1,600	3,120.35	721.93
SALARY, ADMIN. ASST.	6,480	5,940.00	1,080.00
SALARY, SECRETARY	2,256	2,068.00	376.00
LESS ACCRUED TAXES		(1,083.43)	(203.02)
TOTAL	\$320,513	\$312,188.05	\$ 16,700.12

(NOTE: PERIOD COVERED IS FROM FIRST DAY OF FISCAL YEAR TO LAST DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE APPLICABLE TOWN MEETING.)

SIGNED: TRUSTEE Julia W. Reinhardt; ADMIN. ASS'T. Rae F. Gornstine

(a) Overexpenditure relates to Sherwood Forest Survey

(b) Overexpenditure relates to Buckingham Green Survey

(c) Overexpenditure relates to Memorial Garden disbursements and



7. **Archives Committee:** As an adjunct to the conservation assessment completed this past fall, Archives has, with the help of Rich McKinstry of Winterthur Museum, recently completed a collection assessment. Viewed as a whole, these two documents represent a significant step for Archives, serving not only as a snapshot of the collection as it currently stands, but more importantly as a planning document for the future.

One thing that both documents make clear is that Archives will soon outgrow its present location. While it should be stressed that the collection is in no immediate danger, it is important that the town plan now for the needed expansion. Areas that need to be addressed are UV and climate control, larger work areas and permanent exhibition space. The Archives Committee is currently working with the BWVC Committee to see how best to accomplish these goals.

On the less serious note, in honor of Arden Day, Archives will be sponsoring a "Recent Acquisitions" exhibition on Sunday, May 4 from 1 pm-3 pm. So for those of you that have been wondering what a first edition Henry George cigar box really looks like, here's your opportunity.

Many thanks to Linda Eaton for arranging the recent visit by Rich McKinstry and, since we're at the end of our term here, to Linda, Jean, Sally and Sadie, for what I think has been a very productive year for us.

Submitted by Mark Taylor, chairperson

Report approved.

8. **Assessors Report:** Chairperson Aaron Hamburger reported that there will be 2 more Public Hearings coming up. One on May 5 and one on June 3.

Report approved.

9. **Auditing Report:** Chairperson Ken Kipstein had no report.

10. **Budget Committee:** The Three Year Projection of the Budget for the Town of Arden has been prepared, and submitted to the Town Assembly.

This year it was very easy to assemble the information for the Three Year Budget Projection, because almost every committee and organization gave the Budget Committee their information, as requested. There were two tardy groups, but a few quick telephone calls got the information submitted in a few days.

The Budget Committee was advised to remove the "Traffic Light" line from the budget, because it appears that the town will not be billed for the electricity used. Since the traffic light was installed, the town has not been billed for electric charges.

The Budget Committee has kept the Land Rent amount for the Forecast Years the same as what is presently collected. It is not the responsibility of the Budget Committee to suggest an amount for Land Rent in future years. That is the role of the Assessors Committee.

Submitted by Larry C. Walker, chairperson

[See "Three Year Budget Projection . . ."]

## Budget Forecast

THREE YEAR BUDGET PROJECTION FOR THE TOWN BUDGET 1998-2001  
PREPARED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

	1996-6	1996-7	1997-8	1998-9	1999-00	2000-01
	ACTUAL	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	FORECAST	FORECAST	FORECAST
<b>INCOME TO GENERAL FUND</b>						
Land Rent	301,227	312,000	309,000	309,000	309,000	309,000
Interest	10,047	7,050	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,000
Municipal Street Aid	12,858	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
All Other (Note 1)	5,540	8,600	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>329,472</b>	<b>340,650</b>	<b>337,000</b>	<b>337,000</b>	<b>337,000</b>	<b>337,000</b>
Year Beginning Reserve	78,107	94,271	97,182	73,853	68,154	49,184
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>	<b>407,579</b>	<b>434,921</b>	<b>434,182</b>	<b>410,853</b>	<b>405,154</b>	<b>386,184</b>
	ACTUAL	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	PROJECTED
<b>NON-BUDGETABLE EXPENSES</b>						
Property Taxes-School	52,498	52,342	53,000	53,500	58,900	58,500
Property Taxes-County	143,574	145,031	148,500	149,400	152,400	172,200
Municipal Street Aid	23,284	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Trustees' Administration	2,800	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Audit	6,433	8,300	8,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Insurance	0	11,500	2,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Legal (Note 2)	2,075	2,500	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Miscellaneous (Note 3)	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,100
Office Rent	1,380	3,000	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Payroll Taxes	8,498	8,730	8,830	8,904	9,000	9,108
Salaries-Administrative Asst. & Secy.	242,840	249,503	242,930	244,404	252,900	273,408
<b>TOTAL NON-BUDGETABLE EXPENSES</b>						
	ACTUAL	BUDGETED	APPROVED	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	PROJECTED
<b>BUDGETABLE EXPENSES</b>						
<b>A. Committees</b>						
Archives						
Rent (Note 4)	2,180	2,180	2,180	2,180	2,180	2,180
Operating Expenses	403	1,100	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
Buzz Ware Village Center						
Programs	1,518	500	475	500	500	500
Renovation Projects		1,500	3,000	5,000	6,000	6,500
Matching Funds-Renovation Project (Note 5)			22,000			
Civic						
Roads	14,479	14,000	14,000	14,000	15,000	15,000
Commons & Forests	12,188	13,000	13,000	14,000	15,000	15,000
Trash Collection	30,947	32,000	33,000	34,000	35,000	36,000
Special "Big Trash" Pickup	1,077	2,000	2,000	2,200	2,500	2,500
Community Planning	482	200	1,500	1,550	1,600	1,850
Urban Forestry Grant-Matching Funds (Note 5)			3,000			
Legislative Reference	250	300	300	300	300	300
Playground	1,078	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,350
Registration	2,524	3,000	3,100	3,100	3,150	3,200
Safety	2,360	900	900	800	800	800
Welcome Hither	0	250	250	250	250	250
<b>B. SALARIES</b>						
Town Secretary (Note 6)	4,418	4,548	5,108	5,285	5,425	5,590
Town Treasurer (Note 6)	1,835	1,898	2,086	2,150	2,215	2,285
Town Watch Coordinator (Note 6)		2,172	2,220	2,290	2,360	2,430
<b>C. OTHER BUDGETABLE LINE ITEMS</b>						
Centennial Celebration Events				2,000	2,000	2,000
Contingencies	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Donations						
ACRA	700	700	700	700	700	700
Arden Library	400	400	400	400	425	450
Arden Page	450	450	1,000	1,050	1,100	1,150
Fire Companies	850	850	850	850	850	850
Gild Hall Rental	600	650	650	650	675	700
Town Telephone	360	360	360	360	360	360
Traffic Light	0	0	800			
<b>TOTAL BUDGETABLE EXPENSES</b>	<b>78,715</b>	<b>87,256</b>	<b>117,579</b>	<b>98,295</b>	<b>103,090</b>	<b>105,145</b>
	ACTUAL	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	PROJECTED	PROJECTED
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>321,355</b>	<b>336,759</b>	<b>380,509</b>	<b>342,699</b>	<b>355,990</b>	<b>378,553</b>
<b>RESERVE FUNDS AT YEAR END (EST.)</b>	<b>94,271</b>	<b>98,162</b>	<b>73,653</b>	<b>68,154</b>	<b>49,184</b>	<b>7,811</b>
<b>NOTES:</b>						
THE LAND RENT AMOUNT FOR THE FORECAST YEARS WAS KEPT THE SAME AS WHAT IS PRESENTLY COLLECTED. IT IS NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE TO SUGGEST AN AMOUNT FOR LAND RENT. THAT IS THE ROLE OF THE ASSESSORS COMMITTEE.						
1. Includes cable franchise fee, arrearage fees, etc.						
2. Trustees' Legal Fees over projected amount because of lawsuit.						
3. Miscellaneous over projected amount because Administrative Assistant overlap, and purchase of software.						
4. Rent is paid to BWVC.						
5. One time request for matching funds for grant application.						
6. Salary budget figure includes payroll taxes of 10%, and salary increased 3% annually for inflation.						



- 11. BWVC Committee:** The building use (February and March)—21 committee meeting and ACRA. The Georgist Gild had a lecture and the Shakespeare Gild had a most successful turnout for Dr. Lois Potter's lecture on March 15.

Our Valentine Workshop was, as always, much enjoyed although some of our regulars were unable to make it. It's one of those events which involve adults and children together which we like to sponsor. Baby-sitting was provided on the day of the Arden town party on March 9. There was a workshop to make notepaper and cookies for the Sunshine Sale. I am very grateful to Debbie Styles for organizing this event and being responsible for the sale on March 15. One film in the film series took place, but our play reading were canceled due to illness of the leaders. Save Saturday, April 12 for our next film and April 19 for the next play reading.

Our tenants appear to be happy and doing well. Hand-in-Hand is exploring the possibilities of part-time use of room 3 next year. We will be discussing this with both tenants to make sure that it will work to the benefit of all parties.

We still have our monthly rental of the Stage Hands Union and have discussed other potential "regulars." I'd like to remind residents that rooms can be rented for children's parties or other private events. We have had a request from Bob Cunningham, who grew up here in the 40s, to use part of the building for a reunion of "Old Ardenites" on Arden Fair week-end. This could be a great opportunity to collect good stories for Archives.

Ongoing minor maintenance has been taken care of. The playground fence has been reinforced. If you see children climbing on it, please request that they use the gate. One major maintenance issue came up several weeks ago. The door across from room 4 is broken and cannot be repaired again. It has had numerous repairs in the past. John and Mark have two bids and are looking for a third to replace the door. The cost of door replacement with panic bar hardware is close to \$3000. I ask approval of the town to go ahead with this.

In view of the overall needs to upgrade the present structure, the new issue of providing Archives with large enough and appropriate quarters, the on-going problem of providing enough space for ACRA, and the future need for the town office, we have decided to have another look at the plans to enlarge the BWVC.

How to find funds for such an ambitious, we believe, necessary project? This will be one of the challenges facing the new committee. At this point, there do not appear to be any of the state funds available. The committee is getting as much information as it can in order to present realistic proposals in the future, among them the possibility of getting 501C3 status. We do urge that the village recognize the vital importance of this building which houses so much that is essential to the history and ongoing governance of the village.

A housekeeping issue: We have, as of this afternoon, changed all the locks at the BWVC. Larry Walker has new keys and we have a signout sheet. Please come over to exchange your keys if you are on committees which have access to the building. Larry will be at the sign-in table.

Finally, my heartfelt thanks to the committee members, Debbie Theis, Dave Levin, Mark Taylor and John Demsey. Also to the non-voting, but hardworking members, Tom Wheeler, Ardencroft rep. Donna Driesbach, and Ardentown, our indefatigable Shari Phalan. Their support have helped me tremendously during the last two years and I will try to be of help to the new committee to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Submitted by Ruth Bean, chairperson

**Discussion:** Pros and cons of 501C3 status.

Report approved.

**12. Civic Committee:** A few weeks ago the pole bringing electric power to the Frank Stevens Memorial Theater broke at ground level and fell. This was our pole and it had rotted through. DP&L cut the wires at Woodland Lane and removed their meter from the downed pole.

We considered the options for getting power back to the Theater. DP&L would replace the pole for about \$800. They would come under Woodland Lane in the Theater for about \$1200. This would require more work by an electrician in the Theater. In addition this route has many large tree roots that could be seriously damaged. In the midst of these discussions on the scene with the DP&L representative I noticed a new power line to Mandy Tocco's house going through the middle of the Theater at low level. After I cooled down a bit she (the DP&L representative) agreed that this was not right. She said that DP&L could install a pole at their expense about twenty-five feet from Woodland Lane on the edge of the existing driveway. They would reroute the line to Mandy Tocco's house and bring a line for the Theater to ground level from this pole. We could hand-dig a trench for bringing the line underground and install 4"x4" treated posts to support the meter and distribution boxes. At least the ditching and the mounting of posts can be done with cheap labor. DP&L does not allow distribution equipment on their poles.

After we had worked out this reasonable resolution of these problems I persuaded her to walk across the green to the corner of Cherry and Inn Lanes where a DP&L pole was guyed to a tree on the Green. I suggested that surely this was not up to the DP&L standard for guying poles. She agreed that they should relocate the pole and guy to an anchor of their making.

Another problem we dealt with was a long-term encroachment into the woods from 2005 Millers Road. A 15'x15' concrete block building was eleven feet inside the forest. This leasehold changed hands last Friday. When it changed hands last about twenty years ago this encroachment existed. This put us in a weak position to enforce the law. An arrangement was made in which we would remove the building. This will be done.

Submitted by Lou Bean, chairperson

**Discussion:** Cost of removal of concrete block building is estimated at \$1400.

### **13. Community Planning Committee:**

#### **1. Cultural Future of the Village**

##### **A. Landmark Quest**

1. On March 8, University of Delaware Professor Dr. David Ames presented the historical information thus far collected for the nomination to a gathering of about 70 residents of the three Ardens. Discussion after the lecture provided direction for further research.

2. A revised strategy for our Landmark Quest has been adopted. The revision is to insert the Listing of Ardencroft and Ardentown on the National Register, and up-date Arden's Listing, as a step prior to the Landmark application. All three would be Listed as Arden is now — at a national level of significance, beyond local and state significance.

The benefits of this more conservative approach are early creation of increased protection of Ardencroft and Ardentown, thereby increasing the "critical mass" of the existing Historic District. We have more control over the Listing application process, and the Listing process builds bridges to the Landmark process.

3. A New Arden Film. We need a clear physical way to show how the philosophic pillars apply today. A new film would be useful for (a) Centennial celebration, as first film was for US Bicentennial, and (b) Landmark application. A good film can take our message to



*Community Planning Committee continued*

Dover, Philadelphia regional office, Washington — instead of trying to get the bureaucrats here.

**B. Arts Assessment Proposal**

Mary Brent Whipple pulled together a wonderful proposal for documenting the current State of the Arts in Arden. A request for \$14,219 was submitted to the Delaware Division of the Arts, and supported by more than 10 organizations such as the National Park Service, the Delaware Heritage Commission, AmeriCorps, Historic Preservation Office, Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, and the Delaware Art Museum. Mary Marconi is Planning Committee contact and coordinator. Thank you, Mary Brent.

**II. Long Range Plan for Physical Future of the Village**

**A. Forests**

**1. Forest Stewardship Plan.**

Data is being collected. Drafts of sections are being prepared. 2. Forest Clean-Up is Saturday, April 12. See the April PAGE for details.

General Naamans Creek Clean-Up, up-stream and down, is also April 12.

**B. Open Spaces: Greens, Memorial Garden, Streetsides**

1. Urban Forestry Grant. January 18 site visit and February 3 workshop were productive. Next step is to review and revise "memorandum documenting existing conditions, opportunities, and constraints" which is in-the-mail...

Rae Gerstine, accompanied by Bill Press, accepted a public check at a Ceremony.

2. Memorial Garden Clean-Up is Saturday, April 19. See the PAGE for details. Memorial Garden Remembrance Day is May 18, Sunday 1-3.

3. Parking Task Force — Lynda Kolski.

**C. Impact from outside Arden.**

1. Harvey Road. We have technical assistance that money can't buy from WILMAPCO with engineering and education issues, plus \$25,000 from DelDOT's Planning budget for traffic calming landscape design on Harvey Road.

On February 13 a meeting of the three Ardens reviewed the philosophic basis for traffic calming and Country Road status. The outcome was work groups on education, enforcement, and engineering. These groups are meeting and working!

2. Kamin proposal. The Trustees of Ardentown have rejected a proposal for expansion of the Ingleside Nursing Home beyond the original agreement.

**3. Buffer properties**

a. Papa Johns Pizza is arranging to purchase the Auto Medic building at Harvey and Marsh Roads. Since this is a take-out & delivery business, it could negatively impact our traffic calming work. Therefore, the Advisory Committee arranged a site visit with two of their representatives. Communications continue.

b. Balleymeade II. New Castle County Planning Board denied the proposal to rezone for 42 townhouses on 6.26 acres. The Naamans Creek Watershed Association was instrumental in sidetracking the 42 townhouse proposal site.



*Community Planning Committee continued*

**Parking on the Greens:**

Initiated by the Arden Club, a group of concerned citizens was called together to discuss possible solutions to parking on Arden's greens. Representatives were present from the Arden Club Board and appropriate Arden Village committees, including: Lynda Kolski (Arden Club & Comm Plan), Leon Tanzer (Arden Club and Comm Plan), Pete Renzetti (Arden Club), Aaron Hamburger (Arden Club), Tim Colgan (Safety), Ed Kelly (Safety), Lou Bean (Civic), Rodney Jester (Civic), Bernie Brachman (Civic), Bev Barnett (Comm Plan), Mark Taylor (BWVC), Bill Press (Town Chair)

The group met twice and discussed at length parking on the Sherwood Green and Arden Green. We're still working on a solution for Sherwood Green, but have come up with a recommendation for parking on Arden Green and would like to present our idea and get a sense of the town on it.

The two primary uses of Arden Green for parking are for the Arden Fair and during events at the Field Theatre. Our suggestions:

Unfortunately, we don't have a good alternative parking site for cars during the Arden Fair. Until a more creative solution can be found, we have to continue to live with parking on the Green on Fair day. However, to minimize any impact, we suggest: - Letting the grass grow to about six inches before the day of the fair, minimizing damage to freshly cut grass from the cars.

In return for unlimited parking use of the Green on the day of the Fair, ask the Arden Club to have the Green aerated following its use as a parking lot. The only other time that cars are allowed to park on Arden Green is during a production at Field Theatre. The current precedent is that no parking is allowed for private events, such as weddings, but parking is allowed for Gild productions. Our recommendation is that there not be parking allowed on the Green for any public or private event at the Field Theatre. All parking must be on the right-of-way along the street on the non-Green side of the street.

It will be necessary to manage the parking, but it can be done. Starting at the Meltons, if cars are directed to park end-to-end around the Green, we believe most of the cars can be accommodated. Inn Lane, where it divides the Green can be closed to traffic and used for parking. If parking around the Green becomes filled, then cars will be directed to park on the right-of-way of adjoining streets. Many of the people attending Gild productions are from the Ardens and walk. We would hope that those coming from out of town in cars would have the same respect for our Greens and community lands that we as residents do and would enjoy an evening stroll across the Green on their way to our outdoor theatre.

Civic Committee has already given the Shakespeare Gild permission for parking on the Green during their next production. We would like our recommendation to become effective immediately following that. In the meantime, the Shakespeare Gild has agreed to let us use their next production as a trial run. We will try this parking method then and see how it works and if the cars can be accommodated.

Submitted by Lynda Kolski, committee member

*Community Planning Report continued*

**Memorial Garden**

**Memorial Garden** is enjoying the attractiveness of the new planting and the bulbs blooming now that it is spring.

We are planning the Annual Clean-Up from Saturday, April 19 (rain date Sunday). Mailings will be sent to next of kin of those interred and we ask as many volunteers to come, armed with work gloves, favorite tools and energy. As always, we will have more tools available and refreshments after the hard work.

We are also planning Remembrance Day from 1 pm - 3 pm on May 18. This was Leon Tanzer's brainchild and met with enthusiasm by all who have heard about it. This year we will focus on three former Ardenites who have made lasting contribution to Arden. Many new residents who have moved here in the last decade may not know of Earl Books, Jimmy War and Virginia Shaw. We hope people will come and share their memories of these three. We will have some refreshment and should it rain we will move the event to the Upper Gild Hall. We hope that this will become an yearly event to remember and honor former resident who helped to make Arden what it is today.

Submitted by Ruth Bean, Memorial Garden

**Parking on Arden Green discussion:**

Sense of meeting was requested by Lynda Kolski on the parking subject. 1) No damage has been done to green. Are we getting to precious about its use? Many residents have obstructions to parking. Do we truly value theater on the green? Rockwood has parking on their green for certain events. 2) Parking would be difficult if not on green. Only about 25 spots are available. 3) Public is confused when Club can use for Theater and the Fair. 4) Consistency is an issue. When is use, abuse? 5) Blockades to parking should be removed. They are ugly. 6) Town should support Shakespeare. Grid blocks are available that allow parking and grass. 7) Wedding parking is not allowed. Expenses are incurred by residents to shuttle guests from parking elsewhere and are now charged to use the Theatre. It is a double standard and not fair. 8) Arden Club insures against damage to green. Others would probably not want to correct for damage.

**Response:** Committee will look at issues again.

**Papa Johns discussion:** Concerns about size of signs, traffic, hours, neighborhood character.

Report approved.

**14. Ad Hoc Committee to Research Funding:**

The committee has developed resources for some types of funding including 16 Foundations in this area. We also have information on bond, banking and private lending sources. It is our feeling that, in the future, research time would be better spent pursuing funding for specific projects rather than the overall approach that is our charge. Our final report is due at the next Town Assembly.

Submitted by Hugh Roberts, chairperson

Report approved.



- 15. Legislative Reference Committee:** All Arden Handbooks have been delivered to all residents households. If you are aware of any residents that has been missed please call a member of the committee.

As soon as the chairs of the new committees are elected please call a member of the committee so that the information may be added to the hand book. If any significant changes have been made to your committee policy please be sure that it is also forwarded inclusion

We will pass on a decision, of our previous meeting, to the newly elected committee to standardize the format of all new and revised ordinances and suggest that it be followed in the future.

**Discussion:** Chairperson thanks Ken Lipstein for his help.

Report approved.

- 16. Playground Committee:** No report by Rich bloom, chairperson.

- 17. Registration Committee:** There are 394 eligible voters as of 3/24/97. The Registration Committee will meet tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in room 4 at the BWVC to count the ballots from tonight's election.

Submitted by Elizabeth Varley, chairperson

- 18. Safety Committee:**

1) Reminder: As Spring growth increases, please cut back plantings that may obstruct road signs and sight lines at intersections. Any areas not taken care of by residents will be cleared by the committee as we see fit.

2) Results of the town watch survey: If you have not returned a survey yet there are some extras at the table near the entrance. Please fill one out, even if you are not willing to participate.

To date here are the results:

**Total responses:** 36 individuals out of 534 households mailed via the Arden Page to all three communities

Of those responding, 15 are already active, 13 are residents currently not active, but willing to patrol (all of these folks have been contacted and thanked), 33 said the watch was needed, 2 said not needed. Furthermore, 4 respondents were willing to patrol on foot.

**Some of the comments were:** "More frequent patrols." Great idea but we need more people. Quite frankly, the results of the survey are disappointing, less than 10% of the households even bothered to send in or have us pick up the survey. Even using the new people at a maximum of four patrols per year, this is only one patrol per week, actually 56 patrols per year. This puts the program under tremendous stress and is not at the minimum effective level of two patrols per week.

Another comment was to stagger patrols. We already do this. "Publish incidents in the page" was another comment. Presently, we do let patrollers know areas of previous problems. "Have a 'regular' go with a new person." A good idea that we already try to do. Another idea was to offer coupons to Dunkin' Doughnuts, or something like that. This could give a break during the patrol. Good idea. Lastly, was an idea to have educational programs to show how watches protect the community. We will continue to invite police officers to these meetings, and publish pleas in the Page.

Submitted by Tim Colgan, chairperson

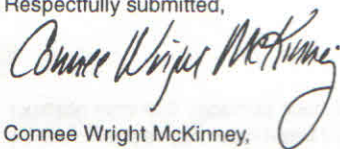
Report approved.



- 19. Welcome Hither:** Jannie Stearns reported that the Arden Party was a success.
- 20. Centennial Committee:** Bill Press reported that the committee will be meeting every two months and have some good events planned.
- 21. Old business:** A motion was made and seconded to untable the motion from the last town meeting on sending a resolution to the Solid Waste Authority. .
- The untabled motion was as follows:** The Town Assembly of the Village of Arden requests the Delaware Solid Waste Authority to remove incineration from its long-term plans and to base waste management on recycling.
- Residents spoke for and against, as well as, Alan J. Muller from Green Delaware.
- Motion approved. Secretary will send to Delaware Solid Waste Authority
- 22. Good and welfare:** Helen Macklem has had surgery. George Kazan, a long term Arden resident, has passed away.
- Georgist Gild will begin classes in April.
- Dedication of Memorial plaque for Al Bratten on April 12.

Meeting adjourned.

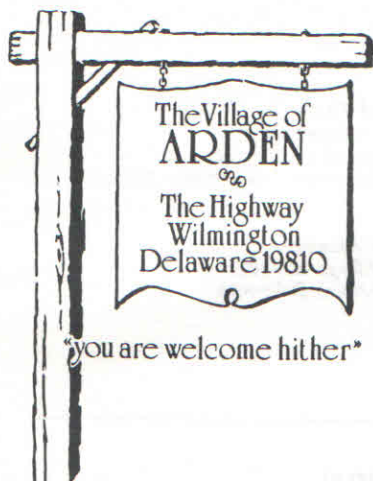
Respectfully submitted,



Connee Wright McKinney,  
Secretary, Village of Arden

**Next town meeting:**

**Monday, June 23, 1997 at 7:30 pm**



April 1, 1997

To: Joseph P. DeJohn,  
Superintendent  
Brandywine School District

Members of the Brandywine School Board  
Ralph G. Ackerman, President  
Enid Rapkin, Vice-president  
Robert Blew  
Paul Hart  
G. Lawrence Pelkey, Jr.  
G. Harold Thompson  
Raymond E. Tomasetti, Jr.

Wayne Smith  
Delaware House of Representatives

Myrna Bair  
Delaware State Senate

From: Town Assembly, Village of Arden, Arden, Delaware

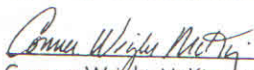
### RESOLUTION

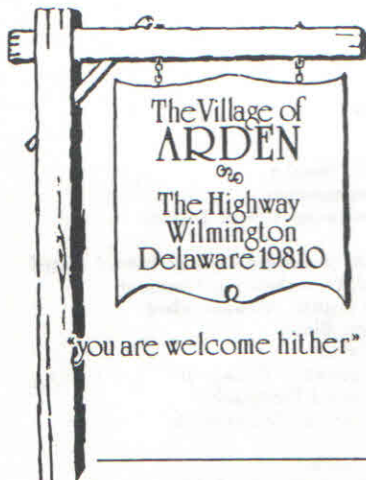
The Town Assembly is the governing body for the village. It has been brought to our attention that changes to the student feeder patterns are being considered by the Brandywine School District. Some of these plans would require children living on one side of Harvey Road going to one set of schools and the other side of the road attending another set of schools. This action would split the three Ardens in half and is unacceptable to this body.

Our villages take pride in the interaction we encourage among our residents. We are an active community with many events and programs designed to create a bond between all our citizens, including our school aged children. A plan that would divide the villages would be disruptive to our ongoing desire to unite the social fabric of the villages.

Therefore, this town assembly resolves that the three Ardens remain together in one feeder pattern if changes are made to existing school assignments.

Passed by Town Assembly, Village of Arden, March 24, 1997

  
Connee Wright McKinney  
Town Assembly Secretary



April 1, 1997

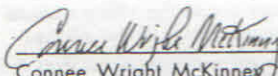
To: Richard Pryor,  
Chairperson  
Board of Directors  
Delaware Solid Waste Authority

From: Town Assembly  
Village of Arden  
Arden, Delaware

### RESOLUTION

The Town Assembly of the Village of Arden requests the Delaware Solid Waste Authority to remove incineration from its long-term plans and to base waste management on recycling.

Passed by Town Assembly, Village of Arden, March 24, 1997

  
Connee Wright McKinney  
Town Assembly Secretary  
(302) 475-3516

cc: Governor Tom Carper